

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

[0001] The present invention relates to a jet-propulsion personal watercraft (PWC).

2. Description of the Related Art

[0002] In recent years, jet-propulsion personal watercraft have been widely used in leisure, sport, rescue activities, and the like. The personal watercraft is equipped with an engine within a space surrounded by a hull and a deck. The personal watercraft is configured to have a water jet pump that pressurizes and accelerates water sucked from a water intake generally provided on a hull bottom surface and ejects it rearward from an outlet port of the water jet pump. As the resulting reaction, the personal watercraft is propelled forward.

[0003] In the jet-propulsion personal watercraft, a steering nozzle provided behind the outlet port of the water jet pump is swung either to the right or to the left by operating a bar-type steering handle to the right or to the left, to change the ejection direction of the water to the right or to the left, thereby turning the watercraft to right or to the left.

[0004] In the personal watercraft, various devices are made to gain a high power using the same engine body. As a prior art, Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2001-146197 (pages 1 to 8, Figs. 5 and 6) discloses a personal watercraft in which a turbocharger is mounted to efficiently gain a high power engine. The turbocharger is a supercharger, and is configured to rotate a built-in turbine using flow of an exhaust gas of the engine for air taken in from outside to be pressurized and to supply the pressurized air to the engine. With this configuration, a